

Program Evaluation Survey

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THIS PROGRAM

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| 1. County | Alameda |
| 2. Program Name | Community Probation |
| 3. Mailing Address | Alameda County Probation Department,
400 Broadway, 4th Floor, Oakland, CA
94607 |
| 4. Research Manager | Isami Arifuku |
| 5. Research Manager's Phone | (510) 208-0500 |
| 6. Person responsible for Data Tracking | Isami Arifuku |
| 7. Phone/Fax of Data Tracker | 510-208-0500 FAX 510-208-0511 |
| 8. Contract Researcher(s) | Barry Krisberg, President
510-208-0500 |

THE PROGRAM

9. Briefly describe interventions that will be used in this program.

Interventions to be included in this program will include: assessment; case planning; tiered case management; victim advocacy, restitution and reconciliation; mentoring, community service work; Youth Court; Neighborhood Accountability Boards, intensive family intervention and in-home services; parent education and family counseling; substance abuse counseling and treatment; mental health services and counseling; job skills development and job readiness preparation; remedial education and tutoring; and enhanced after school activities.

10. Briefly describe, in general terms, the expected beneficial effects of the program (especially the benefits as they relate to what you are going to measure; e.g., if the primary dependent variable is "grade point average," then the goal would be to improve the grade point average.

The expected benefits of this program will include: successful completion of all required program elements by the minor; reparation to the community and restitution to individual victim(s); successful completion of assigned community service; reduced substance use/abuse; elimination or reduction in gang involvement; improved school attendance, performance and conduct; improved family relationships; reduced family conflict/family violence; improved conflict and anger management abilities; reduction in recidivism/penetration into the justice system; and increased attention to minors early in their offending career to deter further criminal behavior.

11. Name and briefly describe the type of research design that you intend to use to determine whether or not this program produces the desired outcomes.

True experimental design.

12. Briefly describe the process evaluation research that you intend to conduct.

The process evaluation research will include: a) assessment of positive and negative changes in experimental group client risks; b) community empowerment and involvement through the development of citizen Neighborhood Accountability Boards; c) client satisfaction measurement for improvements in family relationships and parenting; d) assessment of whether the program operated as initially designed and did what it set out to do; and e) assessment of how well the program did what it said it was going to do.

COMPARISON GROUP

13. Will there be a comparison group?

Yes

14. If you answered 'no' to #13, how will the effectiveness of the program be evaluated?

N/A

15. Will the treatment and comparison group subjects be randomly assigned from the same pool of subjects?

Yes

16. If you answered 'no' to #15, what kind of comparison group will you use?

N/A

17. Briefly describe the process for identifying and assigning the comparison group subjects.

Minors cited to the Probation Department for criminal offenses by law enforcement will be screened at intake for eligibility based on the current criminal charge and prior record and neighborhood of residence (i.e. one of the three target areas).

18. List the criteria for participation that must be met by the comparison group subjects (e.g., age, probation status, gender). Next to each, list the level of the variable that will be used for subject selection (e.g., age 12 or higher, ward of the probation department, males).

Age: between 10 and 17; Must be placed on formal supervision by the juvenile court; Must live in one of the four geographically targeted areas; Gender: male.

19. List any other independent variables that you will be collecting for the comparison group (e.g., risk assessment score, legal history, grade point average, school attendance, drug use).

A standardized risk assessment instrument, The Comprehensive Adolescent Severity Index; educational information (attendance, grades, suspensions/expulsions); prior criminal history (arrests, prior findings, institutionalization, rates of positive and negative termination of probation, rates of completion of community service, rates and severity of reoffending, multiple measures of recidivism) will be administered or assessed for all subjects in both groups.

20. Will the comparison group be matched to the treatment group in terms of any variables?

No

21. If you answered 'yes' to #20, list the matching variables that will be used.

N/A

22. If you answered 'yes' to #20, briefly describe how the comparison group will be matched to the treatment group.

None

23. If you answered 'no' to #20, briefly describe why you believe that the treatment and comparison groups will possess the necessary comparability.

N/A

24. How many subjects will participate in the comparison group during the entire course of the program?

TREATMENT GROUP

25. Briefly describe the process for identifying and assigning treatment-group subjects.

Minors cited to the Probation Department for criminal offenses by law enforcement will be screened at intake for eligibility based on the current criminal charge and prior record and neighborhood of residence (i.e. one of the three target areas).

26. List the criteria for participation that must be met by the treatment group subjects (e.g., age, probation status, gender). Next to each, list the level of the variable that will be used for subject selection (e.g., age 12 or higher, ward of the probation department, males).

Between the ages of 10 and 17; Must be placed on formal supervision by the juvenile court; Must live in one of the four geographically targeted areas; Gender: male.

27. List any other independent variables that you will be collecting for treatment group (e.g., risk assessment score, legal history, grade point average, school attendance, drug use).

A standardized risk assessment instrument, The Comprehensive Adolescent Severity Index; educational information (attendance, grades, suspensions/expulsions); prior criminal history (arrests, prior findings, institutionalization, rates of positive and negative termination of probation, rates of completion of community service, rates and severity of reoffending, multiple measures of recidivism) will be administered or assessed for all subjects in both groups.

28. How many subjects will participate in the treatment evaluation research samples?

DESCRIPTION OF THE INTERVENTIONS

29. List the interventions that only the treatment group will receive (interventions that are not received by the comparison group). Next to each intervention, state in measurable terms, the goals of the intervention. For example, a goal might be: "to improve reading level of program participants."

Treatment group will receive field supervision services that are pr
school attendance, behavior, and performance.

30. List the interventions that only the comparison group will receive (interventions that are not received by the treatment group).

The control group will not receive any intervention beyond the traditional probation services that are delivered to both groups.

31. List the interventions that both the treatment and comparison groups will receive (i.e., in what ways, in terms of interventions, will the treatment and control subjects be treated in the same).

Both groups will be supervised by Alameda County Probation officers and will undergo the same assessment process to identify the presence and severity of risk factors (the CASI-A).

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THIS PROGRAM

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|--|---|
| 1. County | Alameda |
| 2. Program Name | Female Offenders Unit/Reaffirming Young Sister's Excellence Program (RYSE) |
| 3. Mailing Address | Alameda County Probation Department,
400 Broadway, 4th Floor, Oakland, CA
94607 |
| 4. Research Manager | Isami Arifuku |
| 5. Research Manager's Phone | (510) 208-0500 |
| 6. Person responsible for Data Tracking | Isami Arifuku |
| 7. Phone/Fax of Data Tracker | (510) 208-0500 FAX (510) 208-0511 |
| 8. Contract Researcher(s) | Barry Krisberg, President Isami Arifuku, Senior Researcher
(510) 208-0500 |

THE PROGRAM

9. Briefly describe interventions that will be used in this program.

The core structural element will be an interdisciplinary team of probation officers skilled in investigation, supervision, intensive in-home case management, and placement and who are specially trained to work exclusively with adjudicated girls, their children and their families. Based on an individualized needs assessment, the girls will have access to a variety of gender-specific programming that addresses key risk factors such as: life stages and transitions programs, intensive early intervention services for parenting teens, health and pregnancy prevention, and intensive supervision and educationally-based services.

10. Briefly describe, in general terms, the expected beneficial effects of the program (especially the benefits as they relate to what you are going to measure; e.g., if the primary dependent variable is "grade point average," then the goal would be to improve the grade point average.

The primary goal of the Female Offenders Unit is to prevent girls from returning to the juvenile justice system or entering the adult criminal justice system. A corollary goal is to promote the development of the girls' social, academic, and vocational competencies. Specific objectives are to reduce subsequent arrest, referral, and reconviction rates; increase the rates of positive termination of probation; increase the rates of successful completion of community service and restitution; reduce the rate and severity of reoffending; improve school adjustment; reduce substance abuse; improve family functioning; and increase supportive peer relationships; decrease the number of unwanted pregnancies and improve parenting skills for teens with children.

11. Name and briefly describe the type of research design that you intend to use to determine whether or not this program produces the desired outcomes.

The program will use an experimental, randomized evaluation design to assess the efficacy of the program in producing the desired outcomes. The experimental and control groups will be compared on several outcomes including recidivism, successful termination of probation, and psychosocial indicators as measured by the CASI-A.

12. Briefly describe the process evaluation research that you intend to conduct.

The process evaluation will examine the following program elements that are key to the successful implementation of the RYSE program: the context of the program (number of girls and characteristics of girls in the system); the method for identifying eligible participants (selection, risk and needs assessment); the specific intervention (service descriptions, frequency of referrals, number of contacts, matching of intervention to service need); the relevant interorganizational linkages; and the appropriateness of the goals of the program and criteria for determining success. NCCD will provide a written report and recommendations within 120 days of program start-up to assess the quality of implementation.

COMPARISON GROUP

13. Will there be a comparison group?

Yes

14. If you answered 'no' to #13, how will the effectiveness of the program be evaluated?

N/A

15. Will the treatment and comparison group subjects be randomly assigned from the same pool of subjects?

Yes

16. If you answered 'no' to #15, what kind of comparison group will you use?

N/A

17. Briefly describe the process for identifying and assigning the comparison group subjects.

All females who have a court finding will be placed in the pool of eligible participants for randomization. Randomization will be based on the youths probation case number and will place youth in the control or experimental group by the last digit of the case number, which is computer generated. For example, one week, all eligible youths whose case number ends in 7, 8, or 9 will be placed in the control group, up to a maximum of 150 girls for the duration of the demonstration project. These criteria will change every two weeks to further increase the random quality of assignment.

18. List the criteria for participation that must be met by the comparison group subjects (e.g., age, probation status, gender). Next to each, list the level of the variable that will be used for subject selection (e.g., age 12 or higher, ward of the probation department, males).

Gender: the program will serve females only; Age: between the ages of 10 and 17; Disposition: must have a court finding; must not have severe mental/emotional condition (defining criteria for severe mental/emotional condition have yet to be determined).

19. List any other independent variables that you will be collecting for the comparison group (e.g., risk assessment score, legal history, grade point average, school attendance, drug use).

A standardized risk assessment instrument, The Comprehensive Adolescent Severity Index; educational information (attendance, grades, suspensions/expulsions); prior criminal history (arrests, prior findings, institutionalization, rates of positive and negative termination of probation, rates of completion of community service, rates and severity of reoffending, multiple measures of recidivism) will be administered or assessed for all subjects in both groups.

20. Will the comparison group be matched to the treatment group in terms of any variables?

No

21. If you answered 'yes' to #20, list the matching variables that will be used.

N/A

22. If you answered 'yes' to #20, briefly describe how the comparison group will be matched to the treatment group.

N/A

23. If you answered 'no' to #20, briefly describe why you believe that the treatment and comparison groups will possess the necessary comparability.

Due to random assignment to treatment and comparison groups.

24. How many subjects will participate in the comparison group during the entire course of the program?

150

TREATMENT GROUP

25. Briefly describe the process for identifying and assigning treatment-group subjects.

As with the comparison group, randomization will be based on the girls' probation case number and will place youth in the control or experimental group by the last digit of the case number, which is computer generated. For example, one week, all eligible girls whose case number ends in 7,8, or 9 will be placed in the control group. These criteria will change every two weeks to further increase the random quality of assignment.

26. List the criteria for participation that must be met by the treatment group subjects (e.g., age, probation status, gender). Next to each, list the level of the variable that will be used for subject selection (e.g., age 12 or higher, ward of the probation department, males).

Gender: the program will serve females only; Age: between the ages of 10 and 17; Disposition: must have a court finding; must not have severe mental/emotional condition (defining criteria for severe mental/emotional condition have yet to be determined).

27. List any other independent variables that you will be collecting for treatment group (e.g., risk assessment score, legal history, grade point average, school attendance, drug use).

A standardized risk assessment instrument, The Comprehensive Adolescent Severity Index; educational information (attendance, grades, suspensions/expulsions); prior criminal history (arrests, prior findings, institutionalization, rates of positive and negative termination of probation, rates of completion of community service, rates and severity of reoffending, multiple measures of recidivism) will be administered or assessed for all subjects in both groups.

28. How many subjects will participate in the treatment evaluation research samples?

560

DESCRIPTION OF THE INTERVENTIONS

29. List the interventions that only the treatment group will receive (interventions that are not received by the comparison group). Next to each intervention, state in measurable terms, the goals of the intervention. For example, a goal might be: "to improve reading level of program participants."

The treatment group will receive investigation, supervision, and/or placement services that are enhanced by a gender-specific focus. These girls will have access to a series of new curricula that focus on their individual health, mental health, and educational needs. The probation officers assigned to the unit will deliver comprehensive services and will utilize a shared case management style that will improve the ability to respond effectively to individualized circumstances. Comprehensive assessment--to ensure that each girl's multifaceted needs are addressed. Intensive Supervision--to ensure compliance with court orders and terms of probation. Life Stages and Transitions Programming--to increase exposure to critical health, safety, and nutrition information; provide access to health related services. Intensive Early Intervention Services--to strengthen mother-child bond between young women and their children, 0-3 years old. Career Readiness Services, including job readiness training and paid internships. Re-Entry Services for girls returning from out-of-home placement. Concrete Support Services for child care, clothing, etc. The treatment group will receive investigation, supervision, and/or placement services that are enhanced by a gender-specific focus. These girls will have access to a series of new curricula that focus on their individual health, mental health, and educational needs. The probation officers assigned to the unit will deliver comprehensive services and will utilize a shared case management style that will improve the ability to respond effectively to individualized circumstances. Comprehensive assessment--to ensure that each girl's multifaceted needs are addressed. Intensive Supervision--to ensure compliance with court orders and terms of probation. Life Stages and Transitions Programming--to increase exposure to critical health, safety, and nutrition information; provide access to health related services. Intensive Early Intervention Services--to strengthen mother-child bond between young women and their children, 0-3 years old. Career Readiness Services, including job readiness training and paid internships. Re-Entry Services for girls returning from out-of-home placement. Concrete Support Services for child care, clothing, etc.

30. List the interventions that only the comparison group will receive (interventions that are not received by the treatment group).

The control group will not receive any intervention beyond the traditional probation services that are delivered to both groups.

31. List the interventions that both the treatment and comparison groups will receive (i.e., in what ways, in terms of interventions, will the treatment and control subjects be treated in the same).

Both groups will be supervised by Alameda County Probation officers and will undergo the same assessment process to identify the presence and severity of risk factors (the CASI-A).